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premises sprinkled, and 143 inspected. Maximum temperature 87, minimum 54. Nuevo Laredo reports 5 new cases and 1 death.

GUITERAS.

LAREDO, TEX., *October 14, 1903.*

WYMAN, *Washington:*

New cases to-day, 27; deaths, 2; houses disinfected, 24, with 87 rooms; 199 containers and 2 excavations oiled, 26 premises sprinkled, 140 premises inspected. Twenty-six city blocks and intervening streets covered. Maximum temperature, 86; minimum, 53. New Laredo, 6 new cases, 1 death; no report from Minera.

GUITERAS.

Report of inspection at Laredo, Tex.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Hamilton and Surgeon Guiteras report October 4 as follows:

Four weeks ended October 3, 1903.	Sept. 12.	Sept. 19.	Sept. 26.	Oct. 3.
Trains inspected	7	7	7	7
Passengers inspected	294	285	339	141
Persons detained	14	25	19	3
Immigrants inspected	14	25	19	3
Immigrants detained	17	6	9	.....
Passengers vaccinated	7	4	.....	.....
Pullman cars fumigated	7	0	.....	.....
Pullman cars inspected .....	.....	7	.....	.....
Pullman cars disinfected .....	.....	.....	7	7
Trunks disinfected .....	.....	.....	1	.....

Report of conditions existing in San Antonio, Tex., and vicinity with relation to preventing spread of yellow fever.

SAN ANTONIO, TEX., *October 5, 1903.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit a report of the conditions existing in and south of San Antonio, and of the work done up to the present time.

San Antonio was reached on the morning of October 2, 1903, and as soon as practicable I visited the local health authorities, and Doctor Nolte, of the Louisiana State board of health, that I might acquaint myself with the situation as regards yellow fever and quarantines.

From the health authorities I learned that as soon as the first cases of fever had been announced in Laredo a quarantine was put on against passengers and baggage coming from that point, and officers met the incoming train and prevented passengers disembarking. Measures were also taken to prevent those who had gone north from coming back to the city until five days had expired since leaving the fever district, and as far as possible those who had come into the city were located and kept under observation. Besides quarantining Laredo, a quarantine was declared against those counties which had failed to close their doors against the infected center.

All counties are now quarantined. From a sanitary point of view San Antonio presents a better condition than most places of its size, and measures for its improvement are being prosecuted. The local board of health is composed of four physicians and the mayor ex officio. The physicians are Dr. D. Berry, president and county physician; Dr. S. Burg, city physician; Dr. E. F. Hertz Berg, and Dr. H. D. Barnitz, all intelligent, alert, and active gentlemen. They met me very courteously and promised to give all aid in their power, and have extended an invitation to me to be present at their meetings and to take part in them.

From Doctor Nolte I learned that there had been a few rumors relative to there being yellow fever in the city, but upon investigation it was found that they were without foundation. He further stated that he had attended a meeting of the local medical society on the evening of October 1, at which there were present fifty practitioners of the city, and upon inquiry it was established that none of them had seen any case that was at all suspicious. Up to the present time I am satisfied there has been no case of fever as far as is known outside of Laredo and the mines, the latter having had constant and intimate association with Laredo.

On October 3 I drove with Doctor Burg, the city physician, over the city, and, among other places, visited the city hospital. This institution accommodates about sixty beds, but at present there are only about thirty patients in its wards, and among these there were only three fever cases, and these plainly malarial. A room has been prepared here for the reception of actual or suspected yellow-fever cases. The windows and doors are protected by mosquito netting, and a low ceiling has been put in of the same material.

To revert a moment. On Friday evening I attended a meeting of the board of health, the proceedings of which a copy was mailed the Department on Saturday last. Sunday, October 4, I took the 9 o'clock train (only one train each way daily) and went to Cotulla, the first place of any importance after leaving Laredo coming north. Before reaching this place I had an opportunity for gaining a few items concerning Pearsall, the only other point of any importance on the International Great Northern R. R. between San Antonio and Laredo, the train having stopped there for half an hour awaiting the north bound. Inquiries made of the merchants elicited the fact that there was no sickness, and that no strangers were allowed within their gates. On reaching Cotulla the health officer, Dr. J. M. Williams, of Lasalle County, of which Cotulla is the county seat, was called on, and from him a correct understanding of the quarantine measures was obtained.

At Cotulla the Nueces River passes, dividing Lasalle County in two, running in a southeasterly direction, and there are only three places at which people can cross when it is swollen, as is now the case, with-

out swimming. There are two bridges for the public roads and one railroad bridge. At each of these crossings guards are placed, and no one is permitted to pass unless he can establish the fact that he has not been in the yellow-fever neighborhood. It is possible for one to get across the river by swimming, but very few would ever attempt it, and before they could reach their destination, dodging through the thick undergrowth, the five days would elapse and the danger would have passed. In the lower part of the county the little hamlet of Encinal is located. This is under Doctor Williams's jurisdiction.

There are two dirt roads entering the county here, both of which are strongly guarded. All of the contiguous counties have adopted the same measures that Lasalle has. Along the line of the International Great Northern road are a number of little hamlets, the best of which being a very small affair, peopled mostly—say fully two-thirds—by Mexicans. Each place has established its own quarantine, and positively refuses to permit anyone from the south to come in. No one comes in unless he bears the inevitable health certificate. A great number of the Americans left these towns for their ranches when the fever was first announced. In Cotulla, for instance, fully two-thirds of the white population either took the train for the north or went to the ranches.

On October 5 (this morning), not being able to enter any of the towns between Cotulla and this place, coming from the south, I returned to San Antonio, which is really the key to the situation. If no fever gets here, then there is no danger to the country north or east, providing, of course, that none has been already carried by the exodus from Laredo.

The country south is one of magnificent distances, the ranches being from 5 to 30 miles apart, and each one is a principality unto itself, with its own little shotgun quarantine. There is, of course, a little danger of the disease getting on some of the large ranches near Laredo, from the fact that quite a number of Mexicans come north at this season to pick cotton and some one might slip on a ranch and be hidden by his friends.

I reached San Antonio this afternoon and called on Dr. Berry, the president of the board of health. He reports everything quiet and no rumors of any kind.

Respectfully,

JOHN H. PURNELL,
Acting Assistant Surgeon.

Statistical reports of States and cities of the United States—Yearly and monthly.

GEORGIA—*Augusta*.—Month of September, 1903. Estimated population, 42,441. Total number of deaths, 67—white 27, colored 40—including enteric fever 1, measles 1, and 2 from tuberculosis.